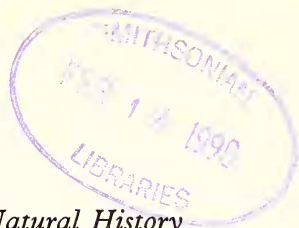


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NOTES ON THE BIRDS COLLECTED IN THE PHILIPPINES DURING THE STEERE EXPEDITION OF 1887/1888

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ABSTRACT. Of the 5000 bird specimens obtained during the Steere Expedition to the Philippines of 1887/1888, nearly 70% have been located. In this paper, we show that some specimens from the Expedition obtained from E. L. Moseley, and F. S. Bourns and D. C. Worcester, were retained by these collectors, and therefore not available to Steere (1890), and should not be considered syntypes of taxa described by Steere. We also recommend the deletion of 10 island records of 9 species due to error or lack of evidence; tabulate 9 records apparently based solely upon the Steere Expedition's findings for which we have been unable to locate the supporting specimens; report 30 new and/or first island records of 26 species; substantiate 14 earlier records by reference to the specimens; comment on 6 species and 2 genera with doubtful records or confused histories; and finally, designate a lectotype of *Phylloscopus olivaceus*.

INTRODUCTION

Joseph Beal Steere, Professor of Zoology at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor, Michigan first visited the Philippines in 1874 and 1875. His collection of birds made on this trip was fully reported by Sharpe (1877) and most of the type specimens are in Ann Arbor. Later Steere led

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an Expedition to the Philippines that lasted from August 1887 until July 1888. He was accompanied by three students – Frank S. Bourns and Dean C. Worcester, who were to have a close association with Philippine birds for many years, and Edward L. Moseley – and by Mateo Francisco, a Filipino who had been with Steere since 1875. Steere (1890, 1891a, 1894) reported on the ornithological results of the second expedition. Although he described 53 new avian taxa, his main account (Steere, 1890) was not much more than a list with brief descriptions of the new forms. Additional information on the expeditions appeared separately in more popular accounts (Steere, 1888a, b, c, 1889, 1891b, c). In his chronology of islands visited, Steere (1890) did not give the exact dates that the party was on each island. Rather, he gave only the main months of such visits often omitting parts of months at the beginning or end of a visit. For example, he gave April 1888 for Samar but the party arrived there well before the end of March. In fact, there were times when the party separated thus adding to the confusion.

Over 5000 bird specimens were taken during the expedition (Steere, 1894). We have located about 70% of these. The largest share, about one third of the original collection, is now in the British Museum of Natural History. The rest is widely scattered (Table 1).

As we searched for the dispersed collection and its type material, we discovered that Steere (1890) had made several errors in identification and had omitted many important distributional records. In addition, we learned that many museum curators were confused about the type status of specimens obtained not from Steere but from other members of the expedition.

In this paper, we address the errors and omissions and clarify the type status of specimens from Steere's colleagues. Finally, we comment on a few species with doubtful records or confused history, and in one case designate a lectotype. Latin names are almost all from duPont (1971).

ABBREVIATIONS USED

AMNH	American Museum of Natural History, New York
BMNH	British Museum (Natural History), London
ISB	Institut Scientifique d'Histoire Naturelle, Brussels
OSUMZ	Ohio State University Museum of Zoology, Columbus, Ohio
USNM	(United States) National Museum of Natural History, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, DC

Table 1. Present location of bird specimens from the 1887/1888 Steere Expedition to the Philippines.

Museum	No. of Skins	Origin
British Museum of Natural History	1773	Steere (1562) Moseley (211)
National Museum of Natural History, Smithsonian Institution	658	Worcester (625) ¹ Bell Museum (33)
Field Museum of Natural History	178	Steere
Museum of Comparative Zoology	83	? Moseley
Cambridge University	18	? Moseley
Rijksmuseum van Natuurlijke Historie, Leiden	82	Moseley
Carnegie Museum of Natural History	16	Bell Museum (5) Purdue (10) Ohio Wesleyan (1)
American Museum of Natural History	54 ²	? Moseley ex Rothschild
Royal Ontario Museum	32	Moseley
University of Michigan Museum of Zoology	? ³	Steere
Purdue University, Indiana	15 ⁴	Steere
Denver Museum of Natural History	298	Chicago Academy of Science
Chicago Academy of Science	1 ⁵	Moseley (12), Steere (287)
Bowling Green State University Museum	88	Moseley
Bell Museum of Natural History	9 ⁶	? Worcester
Ohio State University Museum of Zoology	65	Moseley

¹Bell Museum now holds the rest and the Menage Expedition catalogue into which these were entered, but acquisition was from the Minneapolis Public Library.

²The AMNH may hold some 500 or more specimens, this is the number of relevant types held.

³Steere taught here, so many may be here.

⁴Remaining after exchanges to the Carnegie Museum.

⁵Remaining after sending 298 to Denver.

⁶Remaining from at least 53 of which 33 went to USNM and 5 to the Carnegie Museum.

ELIGIBILITY FOR TYPE STATUS

Steere originally intended that all specimens should be given to him to write up (Hachisuka, 1931). However, some skins were retained by Moseley and others by Bourns and Worcester.

Evidence that Moseley had held onto some skins came when he described two new forms (Moseley, 1891). In addition, had Steere had Moseley's material, he would certainly have included the male, as well as the female, when he (Steere, 1890) described *Philemon* [= *Arachnothera clarae*] *philippensis*. Moseley's male spiderhunter and the types of his two forms were among 211 specimens that were catalogued at the BMNH as early as 1890 and 1891. The catalogue dates are important because they further show that these skins could not have been in front of Steere (1890) when he described his new forms. Moseley appears to have retained most of his specimens and to have sold these directly to various institutions and none of these can be considered syntypes of Steere's new taxa.

After the Steere Expedition, Bourns and Worcester returned to the Philippines from 1890-1893 on the Menage Expedition. When they published their results, however, they (Bourns & Worcester, 1894) included a few new records based on 1887-1888 material and not upon specimens taken in 1890-1893 (Worcester & Bourns, 1898). This clearly suggests that they had kept these skins from Steere. In 1897, the ownership and possession of Steere Expedition material by Bourns and Worcester was confirmed when Worcester presented 625 skins from that expedition to the United States National Museum.

We believe museum material from this Expedition can only be considered to include syntypes of Steere's new taxa if it can be shown that the material was obtained from Steere; such material may however include skins taken by Bourns, Moseley or Worcester. Curators should be aware of this and adjust their collections accordingly.

COMMENTS ON RECOMMENDED DELETIONS

In this section, we recommend the deletion of ten island records of nine species (see Table 2) due to a high probability of error or, in one case, to lack of supporting evidence.

***Ardea cinerea* Linné, 1758:** Steere (1890) recorded this species from Guimaras but the skin that must have served as the basis for this record (BMNH 1896.6.6.1360) is in fact *Ardea sumatrana* (see under New Records). The sole record of *A. cinerea* for Guimaras must therefore be deleted.

Table 2. Recommended deletions of records solely dependant upon the Steere Expedition.

	BASILAN	BOHOL	GUIMARAS	MARINDUQUE	MASBATE	MINDANAO	NEGROS	PANAY
<i>Ardea cinerea</i>			×					
<i>Egretta intermedia</i>		×						
<i>Dupetor flavicollis</i>				×				
<i>Spizaetus philippensis</i>					×			
<i>Porzana paykullii</i>	×							
<i>Charadrius alexandrinus</i>								×
<i>Charadrius peronii</i>							×	
<i>Calidris temminckii</i>							×	
<i>Anthus cervinus</i>	×					×		

***Egretta intermedia* (Wagler, 1829):** Steere (1890) listed *Ardea intermedia* from Bohol and Samar. He also listed *Ardea jugularis* – which Bourns & Worcester (1894) showed to be *Egretta sacra* (Gmelin, 1789) – from the islands of Balabac, Bohol, Cebu and Marinduque. The BMNH register shows eight specimens of *Demiegretta* [*sic*] *sacra* from these four islands, plus Samar. These eight specimens appear to represent both of Steere's listed species. Of these, five (BMNH 1896.6.6.1402, 1403, 1404, 1407 and 1408) are dark phase *Egretta sacra*. The three white ones (BMNH 1896.6.6.1401, 1405 and 1406) are not white-phase *E. sacra* but have been

shown to be *Egretta eulophotes* (Swinhoe, 1860) (see Amadon, 1951). In summary *E. sacra* is represented from the four islands that Steere (1890) listed for his *Ardea jugularis*, whilst Steere's records of *E. intermedia* from Bohol and Samar, which were subsequently used by McGregor (1909), should be deleted. However, there are now two ringing recoveries of *E. intermedia* from Samar (McClure, 1974).

***Dupetor flavicollis* (Latham, 1790):** Steere (1890) listed this, as *Ardetta flavicollis*, from Marinduque and Mindanao but did not include the related species *Ixobrychus sinensis* (Gmelin, 1789) or *I. eurhythmus* (Swinhoe, 1873) in his list. There are Steere Expedition specimens of *I. sinensis* (BMNH 1896.6.6.1393 and 1394) from Marinduque and Mindoro, and specimens of *I. eurhythmus* from Mindanao (BMNH 1896.6.6.1399 and 1400) – one of which was correctly re-identified by Ogilvie Grant, as mentioned in McGregor (1909). It appears that Steere overlooked his Mindoro specimen and took all these birds to be *D. flavicollis*. Therefore, Steere's records of *D. flavicollis* should be deleted, which leaves the species unrecorded for Marinduque.

***Spizaetus philippensis* Gould, 1863:** Steere (1890) listed this species from Basilan, Masbate and Negros. The record from Basilan was apparently based on a specimen (BMNH 1896.4.15.8) originally identified as *S. philippensis*, since reidentified as *Pernis celebensis steerii* Sclater, 1919. The Masbate record, if represented by a single skin, is probably based on a Steere specimen in the Institut Scientifique d'Histoire Naturelle, Brussels (ISB 9390), that is also believed to be *P. c. steerii*. The Negros specimen (BMNH 1896.4.15.40) was misidentified as well. In fact, Sclater (1919) used this as the type specimen when he described *P. c. steerii*. Clearly Steere (1890) listed *S. philippensis* in error and his records should be deleted. However, there remain valid records of this species from Basilan (Worcester & Bourns, 1898) and Negros (Tweeddale, 1878), but not from Masbate.

***Porzana paykullii* (Ljungh, 1813):** Dickinson (1984) pointed out that the bird from Basilan listed as this species by Steere (1890) is *Rallina fasciata*.

***Charadrius alexandrinus* Linné, 1758:** Steere (1890) listed this species, as *Aegialites cantianus*, from Bohol, Palawan and Panay. None of these three islands is represented by Steere skins in the BMNH; his only specimens of *C. alexandrinus* are from Negros and Siquijor. Steere's "*A. cantianus*" seems almost certain to have been *C. mongolus* for there are Steere skins of this from Bohol and Panay in the BMNH. McGregor (1909) listed other collectors of *C. alexandrinus* from Bohol and Palawan

but listed only the Steere Expedition as the source of a Panay record. As the Steere record must be deleted there now no records of this species from Panay.

***Charadrius peronii* Schlegel, 1865:** Steere (1890) listed this species, as *Aegialites peronii*, for Mindanao, Negros and Siquijor. McGregor (1909) cited the Steere Expedition as the only collectors from Negros. The birds before Steere seem likely to have been a composite collection of *C. alexandrinus* – the skins mentioned above – and *C. peronii*. There are indeed Steere skins of confirmed *C. peronii* from Mindanao in the BMNH, and a Siquijor skin in the USNM taken on the Steere Expedition by Bourns or Worcester; but no *C. peronii* skin has been traced from Negros. Probably, Steere's Negros record was based on a skin of *C. alexandrinus*.

***Calidris temminckii* (Leisler, 1812):** Parkes (1986a) has shown that Steere's (1890) record from Negros is based on a specimen of *C. minuta*; thus there is no valid record of *C. temminckii* from Negros.

***Anthus cervinus* (Pallas, 1811):** Listed by Steere (1890) from Mindanao and Basilan, but the Basilan record was not listed by McGregor (1909). No skins in the BMNH substantiate these records from either island; indeed it seems probable that Steere was confused between *A. gustavi* Swinhoe, 1863, and *A. cervinus*. As there are no other records of *A. cervinus* from either Basilan or Mindanao, it seems best to delete Steere's records until proof can be found.

COMMENTS ON RECORDS NEEDING SUBSTANTIATION

Because we have not located all of the specimens collected by the Steere Expedition, we were not surprised that we could not find the specimens to substantiate nine key records (see Table 3). However, the number is remarkably small since the BMNH has obtained a representative collection. We feel that each record will eventually be confirmed and thus we do not recommend their deletion.

NEW OR FIRST ISLAND RECORDS

In all we have identified 30 new and/or first island records for 26 species that Steere and his colleagues either misidentified, or for one reason or another, failed to report in their publications.

***Ardea sumatrana* Raffles, 1822:** Guimaras: BMNH 1896.6.6.1360 taken 28 December 1887. Misidentified by Steere (1890) as *A. cinerea* (see above).

Table 3. Island records dependant upon Steere (1890) that have not been substantiated so far.

	GUIMARAS	MARINDUQUE	MASBATE	MINDANAO	SAMAR	SIQUIJOR
<i>Anas luzonica</i>						X
<i>Falco peregrinus</i>				X		
<i>Rallus striatus</i>	X					
<i>Ducula poliocephala</i>			X			
<i>Ninox philippensis</i>		X				
<i>Pelargopsis capensis</i>	X					
<i>Halcyon winchelli</i>					X	
<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>		X ¹				
<i>Anthus gustavi</i>	X					

¹This record was not reported by Steere (1890) but was by McGregor (1909).

***Ixobrychus sinensis* (Gmelin, 1789):** Marinduque: BMNH 1896.6.6.1393 taken 17 May 1888. Appears to have been treated as *Dupetor flavicollis* by Steere (1890).

***Pernis celebensis* Wallace, 1868:** Masbate: ISB 9390. As shown above, Steere's specimens of what he believed to be *Spizaetus philippinensis* appear to have been *P. c. steerii*. We have not examined the specimen from

Masbate but the ISB register shows an annotation correcting Steere's identification to *P. c. steerii*. If correctly identified, this appears to be the first record of this species from Masbate.

***Haliaeetus leucogaster* (Gmelin, 1788):** Panay: USNM 161108 taken in January 1888. Previously known only by sight records from islets near Panay (Rabor, 1938; Alcalá & Alviola, 1970).

***Circus melanoleucos* (Pennant, 1769):** Panay: BMNH 1891.4.25.2 taken in January 1888. Not mentioned by Steere (1890), this skin was purchased from Moseley.

***Accipiter soloensis* (Horsfield, 1821):** Guimaras: BMNH 1896.4.15.3 taken 25 January 1888, and omitted by Steere (1890).

***Turnix suscitator* (Gmelin, 1789):** Guimaras: BMNH 1896.6.6.1229 taken 17 January 1888, and omitted by Steere (1890).

***Rallina eurizonoides* (Lafresnaye, 1845):** Guimaras: BMNH 1896.6.6.1265 taken 6 January 1888. Marinduque: BMNH 1896.6.6.1266 taken 5 May 1888. Samar: BMNH 1896.6.6.1268 taken 2 April 1888. Siquijor: BMNH 1896.6.6.1267 taken 14 February 1888. All of these specimens were omitted by Steere (1890), with the possible exception of the juvenile Siquijor bird, which Steere may have listed as "*Porzana erythrothorax*."

***Amaurornis olivacea* (Meyen, 1834):** Marinduque: BMNH 1890.12.1.115 taken 11 May 1888; a Moseley specimen, not listed by Steere (1890).

***Charadrius alexandrinus* Linné, 1758:** Negros: BMNH 1896.6.6.1313 taken 7 February 1888. This first specimen record of *C. alexandrinus dealbatus* (Swinhoe, 1870), from Dumaguete, was probably listed by Steere (1890) as *Aegialites* (= *Charadrius*) *peronii* (see above). McClure (1974) reported a recent banding recovery of this species from Negros. DuPont (1976) based his record of the race *C. a. alexandrinus* on this recovery.

***Charadrius mongolus* Pallas, 1776:** Panay: BMNH 1896.6.6.1299 taken 1 January 1888. As mentioned earlier, Steere (1890) identified this specimen as "*Aegialites cantianus*".

***Gallinago megala* Swinhoe, 1861:** Samar: BMNH 1896.6.6.1341 taken 26 March 1888; omitted by Steere (1890).

***Chlidonias hybridus* (Pallas, 1811):** Guimaras: BMNH 1896.6.6.1436 taken 6 January 1888; omitted by Steere (1890). Bourns & Worcester (1894) claimed new records of *C. hybridus* for 15 islands, including Guimaras, but only as a result of two errors; first, at the foot of page 30 only Luzon, Samar and Mindanao should have appeared—the islands listed

after the full stop that follows Mindanao are a duplication by the printer of the islands listed correctly for *Sterna bergii* at the top of page 31, as may be found by checking the table in Worcester & Bourns (1898); secondly, that same table shows *C. hybridus* only for Luzon and Palawan, so that the 1894 listing for Samar and Mindanao was presumably found later to be based on misidentified specimens. We know of no other record of this species from Guimaras.

***Phapitreron leucotis* (Temminck, 1823):** Marinduque: BMNH 1896.6.6.1109 taken 15 May 1888; omitted by Steere (1890). Identified as *P. l. leucotis*.

***Macropygia phasianella* (Temminck, 1821):** Malamaui: USNM 161089 taken 10 November 1887; probably listed by Steere (1890) under Basilan, which Malamaui adjoins.

***Cacomantis variolosus* (Vigors & Horsfield, 1826):** *C. v. everetti* Hartert, 1825–Malamaui: USNM 161189 taken 9 November 1887. *C. v. sepulcralis* (S. Müller, 1843)–Panay: BMNH 1896.6.6.956 taken 14 January 1888. Steere (1890) did not list this species, but did list *C. merulinus* Scopoli, 1786, from both Basilan (which could have comprised Basilan and Malamaui) and Panay. It was only recently recognized that *C. variolosus* occurred sympatrically with *C. merulinus* almost throughout the Philippines. Of the ten islands that Steere listed for *C. merulinus*, based on Steere Expedition skins in the AMNH, the BMNH and the USNM, records from Basilan, Cebu, Leyte, Luzon, Masbate, Palawan and Panay are authentic. We have also found Steere Expedition skins of *C. variolosus* from Basilan, Malamaui, Mindanao, Panay and Samar; those from Malamaui and Panay appear to be first records. No Steere Expedition skin of either species from Negros has been found.

***Otus megalotis* (Walden, 1875):** Marinduque: OSUMZ (not numbered) in May 1888 by E. L. Moseley from Boac, Marinduque. This first specimen record has been identified by RSK and J. T. Marshall as a juvenile red phase of *O. m. megalotis*. Marshall (1978) has reported on two more recent specimens (in the Philippine National Museum) of this species from Marinduque.

***Collocalia esculenta* (Linné, 1758):** Guimaras: BMNH 1896.6.6.786–87 taken 8 January 1888; omitted by Steere (1890).

***Pericrocotus divaricatus* (Raffles, 1822):** Balabac: BMNH 1896.6.6.108 taken 29 September 1887; omitted by Steere (1890).

***Corvus macrorhynchos* Wagler, 1827:** Malamaui: OSUMZ 10537 taken 11 November 1887 by E. L. Moseley.

***Copsychus saularis* (Linné, 1758):** Marinduque: BMNH 1896.6.6.276 taken 11 May 1888; BMNH 1896.6.6.277 taken 18 May 1888; omitted by Steere (1890). The amount of buff on the underparts of females is said to distinguish *C. s. deuteronymus* Parkes, 1963, of Luzon from *C. s. mindanensis* (Boddaert, 1783) of the southern islands (duPont, 1971). Judging from material in the BMNH this character varies clinally and the Marinduque birds are intermediate.

***Gerygone sulphurea* Wallace, 1864:** Basilan: BMNH 1896.6.6.129 and 130 taken 22 November 1887; omitted by Steere (1890). These two specimens from Basilan are of the race *G. s. rhizophorae* Mearns, 1905, which Parkes (1986b) has shown to be distinct.

***Acrocephalus stentoreus* (Ehrenberg, 1833):** Mindanao: BMNH 1896.6.6.222 taken 25 October 1887. Presumably this is the specimen listed for this date under *A. arundinaceus* by Steere (1890).

***Acrocephalus [arundinaceus] orientalis* (Temminck & Schlegel, 1847):** Marinduque: BMNH 1896.6.6.223 taken 16 May 1888, wing length 86 mm, the wing formula confirming the identity. Steere (1890) listed only Mindanao (the specimen discussed above) and Cebu. McGregor (1909) cited both the Steere Expedition (which was not valid) and Goodfellow as collectors of *A. [a.] orientalis* from Mindanao. There are three skins in the BMNH taken by Goodfellow near Davao that support his Mindanao records. Steere's Cebu specimen has not been traced. However, McGregor (1909) named himself and Meyer as other collectors of *A. [a.] orientalis* from Cebu. We have located Meyer's supporting specimen in the BMNH.

***Pachycephala cinerea* (Blyth, 1847):** Mindanao: BMNH 1896.6.6.345 taken 10 December 1887; omitted by Steere (1890). This specimen taken at Ayala near Zamboanga, appears to match specimens of *P. c. homeyeri* (Blasius, 1890) from the Sulu Archipelago.

***Dicaeum bicolor* (Bourne & Worcester, 1894):** Guimaras: BMNH 1896.6.6.563 taken 30 December 1887; omitted by Steere (1890). *D. bicolor* was described by Bourne & Worcester (1894) from their Menage Expedition material, and yet the Steere Expedition had taken a male (BMNH

1896.6.6.562) in Negros and the above mentioned female (BMNH 1896.6.6.563) in Guimaras. The latter has upperparts more like *D. b. inexpectatum* (Hartert, 1895) and underparts like the nominate form and thus closely matches the description of *D. b. viridissimum* Parkes, 1971, of Negros.

SUBSTANTIATION OF UNUSUAL RECORDS FROM THE EXPEDITION

In our review of the important island records from the Steere Expedition, we identified 14 published records that were either questioned or omitted by subsequent authors because the accounts lacked sufficient supporting data. Here we substantiate these records by providing details on the supporting specimens.

***Sula sula* (Linné, 1766):** The synonymy of *Sula* spp. in the Philippine literature is confused; for this reason the skin (BMNH 1896.6.6.1414) listed by Steere (1890) as "*Sula piscatrix*" has been re-examined. It was collected at Ayala, Mindanao on 10 October 1887, and is an immature *Sula sula*.

***Megapodius freycinet* Gaimard, 1823:** Steere (1890) listed this species from Masbate, but McGregor (1909) omitted the record. A specimen (BMNH 1896.6.6.1225) taken 2 May 1888 substantiates the record.

***Turnix suscitator* (Gmelin, 1789):** Although not listed by Steere (1890) from Negros, McGregor (1909) credited the Expedition with a record from there and mentioned eggs supposedly taken on 10 November [1887], when in fact the Expedition was in Guimaras. M. P. Walters (*in litt.*) confirms that the eggs, now in the BMNH, were in fact taken on 10 February 1888, at which date the Expedition was indeed in Negros.

***Porzana pusilla* (Pallas, 1776):** DuPont (1972) did not accept the Marinduque record for this species. It was published, not by Steere, but by Hachisuka (1931), and is confirmed by a specimen (BMNH 1896.6.6.1270) collected on 12 May 1888.

***Charadrius dubius* Scopoli, 1786:** McGregor (1909) credited the Steere Expedition with a specimen from Panay, although this was not listed by Steere (1890). A skin (BMNH 1890.12.1.132) collected on 18 January 1888 by Moseley confirms this.

***Charadrius veredus* Gould, 1848:** Not listed by Steere (1890). However, three skins (BMNH 1896.6.6.1317 and 1318 and USNM 314793) were taken in Palawan by the Steere Expedition between 12 and 22 September

1887. The USNM skin no doubt provided the record in McGregor (1909), credited to Bourns & Worcester; the date on the specimen label shows it was collected by them during the Steere Expedition, not the Menage Expedition as implied by the table in Worcester & Bourns (1898).

***Numenius minutus* Gould, 1841:** Bourns & Worcester *in* McGregor (1909) reported it taken in Marinduque in 1888 by Bourns. A specimen (USNM 314815) taken on 15 May 1888 supports this.

***Limosa limosa* Linné, 1758:** McGregor (1909) correctly credited the Steere Expedition with a record of this species from Negros, in addition to a record of *Limosa lapponica*, although Steere (1890) claimed only the latter. Specimen BMNH 1890.12.1.124, purchased from Moseley and registered as *L. melanura*, is *L. limosa melanuroides* Gould, 1846, while BMNH 1896.6.6.1346 received from Steere and registered as *L. novaezeelandiae* is *L. lapponica baueri* Naumann, 1836.

***Calidris tenuirostris* (Horsfield, 1821):** Omitted by Steere (1890), but he, and also Bourns & Worcester, are given as collectors in Negros by McGregor (1909). The record credited to Steere is a specimen (BMNH 1896.6.6.1338) collected on 4 February 1888. Moseley collected a further specimen (BMNH 1890.12.1.127) on 6 February. A third specimen, once given the Menage Expedition no. 4489, taken on 7 February 1888 is in the Bell Museum (uncatalogued there), Minneapolis (*per* K.C. Parkes).

***Tanygnathus sumatranus* (Raffles, 1822):** Listed only from Mindanao by Steere (1890), but Bourns & Worcester (*in* McGregor, 1909) mentioned that Moseley collected this species in Panay. The supporting specimen is BMNH 1890.12.1.80, taken on 16 January 1888.

***Chrysococcyx russatus* Gould, 1868:** Listed as *C. basalis* by Steere (1890) and apparently overlooked by McGregor (1909), Parker (1981) reidentified the specimen (BMNH 1896.6.6.963), collected in Basilan on 21 November 1887.

***Ninox scutulata* (Raffles, 1822) subsp.:** Listed from Guimaras as *Ninox lugubris* by Steere (1890) but not included by McGregor (1909). A specimen (BMNH 1896.4.15.51) from Guimaras taken 25 January 1888 has not been identified to subspecies.

***Rhabdornis mystacalis* (Temminck, 1825):** DuPont (1971) omitted Basilan from the range of *R. m. minor* Ogilvie-Grant, 1896, although McGregor (1909) listed Basilan on the basis of a Celestino record. In addition there is an unreported Steere Expedition specimen (USNM 161551) of *R. m. minor* collected in Basilan in November 1887.

***Megalurus timoriensis* Wallace, 1864:** Although McGregor (1909) listed this species from Masbate duPont (1971) omitted it. However Moseley collected a specimen (BMNH 1890.12.1.29) at Palanog on 30 April 1888 during the Steere Expedition.

COMMENTS ON OTHER SPECIMENS COLLECTED BY THE STEERE EXPEDITION

Below we comment on six species and two genera with doubtful records or confused history.

***Ixobrychus eurhythmus* (Swinhoe, 1873):** Not previously known from Panay but a specimen (USNM 160965), supposedly taken on 18 January 1888, very probably came from Panay as the Expedition was there at that time. Unfortunately, the label says "Palawan" and "Jan. 18" [1888]. Collecting in Palawan seems to have ended about 26 September 1887, but it could be the date rather than the island that is in error on the label.

***Accipiter* sp.:** Of the various species of small *Accipiter*, Steere (1890) listed only *Accipiter soloensis* (Horsfield, 1821) from Mindanao, but in fact he probably did not have a specimen of this species from Mindanao. The BMNH holds four skins of small *Accipiter* taken on the Steere Expedition, two coming from Moseley and two from Steere. The two from Moseley (BMNH 1890.12.1.8 from Guimaras and BMNH 1890.12.1.9 from Mindanao), which were almost certainly not available to Steere (1890), were registered as *A. virgatus*. The Guimaras specimen could not be found but the Mindanao bird has been re-examined and is *A. virgatus confusus* Hartert, 1910. Neither of Steere's specimens is from Mindanao, which may imply that a further specimen exists in another institution. One of Steere's, from Luzon (BMNH 1896.4.15.5), is a third specimen of *A. v. confusus* and the other (BMNH 1896.4.15.3) has been listed earlier as the first record of *A. soloensis* from Guimaras. Steere (1890) omitted these two specimens or at least did not think that either was *A. soloensis*. He was probably confused by the existing literature (see Hartert, 1910) and we cannot be sure what species he took from Mindanao. However, there are satisfactory records of *A. soloensis* from Mindanao (AMNH 532719 collected by Waterstradt, and AMNH 532720 collected by Goodfellow) so that Steere's (1890) record is not critical.

***Porzana fusca* (Linné, 1766):** Steere (1890) listed *P. fusca* from Luzon and Mindanao and *P. erythrothorax* - now considered the Chinese race of *P. fusca* - from Guimaras. McGregor (1909) apparently doubted this record because he omitted it. There is no skin now in the BMNH that throws

any light upon this unless it is the juvenile *Rallina eurizonoides* (Lafresnaye, 1845) (BMNH 1896.6.6.1265) from Guimaras.

***Fulica atra* Linné, 1758:** Not listed by Steere (1890). There is a specimen (BMNH 1896.6.6.1442), purportedly from the Steere Expedition, dated 15 April when the Expedition was in Leyte. The words "Laguna" and "old skin" appear on the label of this and of Steere Expedition specimens of *Falco peregrinus* Tunstall, 1771, (BMNH 1896.4.15.37) and *Ninox scutulata* (Raffles, 1822) (BMNH 1896.4.15.54), all seem to have been bought from a taxidermist. No record can be safely based on any of these specimens.

***Centropus bengalensis* (Gmelin, 1788):** Steere (1890) listed his Palawan material as *Centroccocyx affinis* following Sharpe (1888), who reported that Whitehead had taken *C. affinis* in Palawan; *C. affinis* was later synonymised with *C. bengalensis javanensis* (Dumont, 1818). As discussed by Parkes (1957, 1965) and Mees (1971), the birds of Palawan and the Sulu Islands are *C. b. javanensis* and those of other islands *C. b. philippinensis* Mees, 1971 (of which the type was taken in Mindoro by the Steere Expedition). Steere (1890) did not list his other material of "*C. affinis*" but the BMNH has Steere Expedition birds from Bohol, Cebu, Mindoro and Negros.

***Collocalia* sp.:** Apart from *C. troglodytes* G. R. Gray & Mitchell, 1845, over which no mistakes are likely to have been made, Steere (1890) listed only *C. francica* (Gmelin, 1789) and did so for Cebu, Mindoro, Negros and Panay. Hartert (1892) included Steere (1890) records of *C. francica* in his synonymy of *C. fuciphaga* (Thunberg, 1812), probably based solely on birds in the BMNH taken by Moseley. However, it has long been known that the Steere Expedition took at least two other species of swiftlets. In fact, McGregor (1909) credited it with the following; *C. lowi* (Sharpe, 1879) from Palawan; *C. fuciphaga* from Cebu, Mindoro, Negros, Palawan and Panay; *C. germani* Oustalet, 1878, from Cebu and Negros; and *C. troglodytes* from Guimaras, Marinduque and Negros. The records of *C. lowi* (see Ogilvie Grant, 1895) and *C. troglodytes* are correct, but there seems to be no basis for the Cebu and Negros listings of *C. germani* – upon which McGregor (1909) was probably misled by Oberholser (1906), who wrote "... all Philippine records of both *C. francica* and *C. inexpectata* refer of course to *germani*."

In a separate publication one of us (Dickinson, in press) will review the larger species of *Collocalia* that occur in the Philippines; several taxa will be treated under specific names that differ from duPont (1971). The Steere Expedition material includes the following:

■ Four generally dark forms:

□ *a long winged, square tailed swiftlet with feathered tarsi*: BMNH 1890.12.1.87 from Palawan. This has been shown by Ogilvie Grant (1895) to be *lowi*, a race of *C. maxima* Hartert, 1892, — a species omitted by duPont (1971).

□ *a long winged swiftlet with naked tarsi*: BMNH 1890.12.1.86, 1896.6.6.798 and 799; USNM 161296 (once labelled 161299), 161297 and 161298 from Palawan. These belong to the form *palawanensis* Stresemann, 1914. DuPont (1971) treated this as a race of *C. brevirostris*.

□ *a medium sized swiftlet with feathered tarsi*: BMNH 1890.12.1.88, 1896.6.6.794 and 795 from Negros; this has traditionally been called *C. mearnsi* Oberholser, 1912, although it was treated by duPont (1971) as a synonym of the following form.

□ *a medium sized swiftlet with naked tarsi*: BMNH 1896.6.6.791, 792 and 797 from Cebu; BMNH 1896.6.6.796 from Mindoro; USNM 161295 from Mindanao (the label shows the collecting date as November 1887 and the register entry showing June 1888 is an error). These represent *amelis* Oberholser, 1906; treated by duPont (1971) as a form of *C. vanikorensis* (Quoy & Gaimard, 1830).

■ Two forms with distinct plumage:

□ *a medium sized swiftlet with a buffy rump patch*: USNM 161299 from Panay (once mislabelled 161296); this represents *germani*, considered a form of *Collocalia fuciphaga*. This specimen was the basis for the record by Bourns & Worcester (1894) but it is not a Menage Expedition specimen. The record from Panay of Steere (1890)—which this pale rumped bird, almost certainly not known to Steere, would not represent, is the only Steere *Collocalia francica* record we have not been able to substantiate.

□ *a small swiftlet with white underparts*: BMNH 1896.6.6.786 and 787 from Guimaras, BMNH 1896.6.6.789 from Mindanao and BMNH 1896.6.6.788 from Negros all of which are forms of *C. esculenta* (Linné, 1758).

***Parus semilarvatus* (Salvadori, 1865)**: Parkes (1971) discussed the attribution of an old Negros record to the Steere Expedition by McGregor (1909), and has pointed out that Steere (1890) did not list it. No supporting specimen has been found.

***Phylloscopus olivaceus* (Mosely, 1891)**: This species was described by Moseley (1891) as *Abrornis olivacea* based on a female (BMNH 1891.4.25.47) from Negros and a male (BMNH 1891.4.25.30) from Samar. However, the female is in fact a specimen of *Phylloscopus cebuensis* (Dubois, 1900). Rand & Rabor (1952) remarked upon this when restricting the type locality to Samar—they also incidentally provided satisfactory records of *P. olivaceus* from Negros. We now consider it desirable to hereby formally designate

the presumed male *P. olivaceus* (BMNH 1891.4.25.30) taken on 12 April 1888 at Catbalogan, Samar as the lectotype so as to ensure citation of a type specimen that is truly representative of the species.

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